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PATENT
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Akiro Sato et al.
Serial No. : 09/578,391
Filed : May 25, 2000
For: : Anastomosis Member for Anastomosis of Blood Vessels
And Anastomosis Method Using the Anastomosis Member

Asst. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

As will be noted from page 2 of the application, reference is made to U.S. Patent No. 6,017,362 dated January 25, 2000. A copy of the patent is enclosed herewith. The patent is entitled Folding Self-Expandable Intravascular Stent. It relates to a method for installing a self-expanding stent into a lumen. The steps comprise providing a collapsed self-expanding stent having a longitudinal axis and at least one fold line. The stent includes at least one assembly extending circumferentially about the longitudinal axis and is maintained in the collapsed state by a longitudinally positioned release line associated with the stent. The collapsed self-expanding stent is released and allowed to expand at a selected cite in the lumun.

Applicant's invention differs in that an anastomosis member is arranged at an



first and second blood vessel. The anastomosis member is a generally cylindrical body. It is comprised of at least one plate member which is adapted to be brought into with bath of the first and second blood vessels. The plate member has a plurality of protrusions formed on at least one opposite surface thereof and is adapted to be engaged with at least one of said first and second blood vessel such as to present dislocation of said first and second blood vessel at the anastomosed site.

In summary, the claims of the present application distinguish patentably over U.S. Patent No. 6,017,302.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that I have a reasonable basis that this paper, along with any referred to above, (i) are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, or (ii) are being transmitted to the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.6(d).

Dated: August 21, 2000

DATE: August 21, 2000

NAME: Hamida Jaffer

SIGNATURE: 